THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH 25 STANIFORD STREET, BOSTON, MA 02114

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 19, ss. 1, 18 and M.G.L. c. 123, s. 2 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Department of Mental Health will hold a public hearing for the purpose of receiving written and oral testimony on its proposed amendments. The Department describes the substance of the amendments as follows:

104 CMR 26.00 Organizational Structure and Citizen Participation

The proposed amendments change the designation of the DMH units at Tewksbury Hospital to conform to current practice, as well as changing the title of the Women's Recovery from Addiction Program (WRAP) to Recovery from Addiction Program (RAP), as that program expands to include men committed for treatment under M.G.L. c. 123 s. 35.

104 CMR 32.00 Investigations and Reporting Responsibilities

The proposed amendments make largely technical changes to assure compliance with privacy laws, clarify the process for investigating privacy complaints, create and/or clarify reporting requirements for programs and facilities contracted by DMH to provide services, clarify and make consistent the processes for reconsideration and/or appeals of decision, and clarify monitoring responsibilities.

PUBLIC HEARING

A virtual Public Hearing will be conducted by the Department of Mental Health on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS

If you want to testify at the hearing, please register by sending an email to: DMH-regulations@state.ma.us.

To join the hearing online, click on link <u>Join Meeting</u> or go to: https://statema.webex.com/statema/j.php?MTID=m7f0c2bc65a48f5c17e7e305ff672d9a3

Join by meeting number

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Meeting password: JimTsYXR757

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Join from a video system or application

Dial 1611244641@statema.webex.com

OR dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number

Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY can be submitted instead of, or in addition to, live testimony.

To submit written testimony or comments, email your testimony to:

<u>DMH-regulations@state.ma.us</u> as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email; with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony or comments must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or

affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to: Office of the General Counsel, Department of Mental Health, 25 Staniford Street, Boston, MA 02114. Copies of the emergency regulations may be obtained from this address NO LATER THAN 9/29/21. Comment Period ends on September 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

<u>INFORMATION</u>: The proposed regulations are posted on the DMH website and can be viewed at: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/dmh-proposed-regulations or request a copy in writing from DMH Regulations, 25 Staniford Street, Boston, MA 02114 or email: DMH-regulations@state.ma.us. DMH may adopt a revised version of the proposed actions taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

ACCOMMODATION: If you plan to participate the public hearing and wish to request the accommodation of a sign language or other interpreter, contact DMH Legal office by calling 617-626-8236 or by email: DMH-regulations@state.ma.us at least 14 days in advance of the hearing date.

By Order of the Department of Mental Health Brooke Doyle, Commissioner August 20, 2021